

I am posting my comment here on the localism task force, somewhat puzzled. "Localized Media"? What an amazing idea. Breaking up the outrageous media monopoly in this country is an idea whose time for discussion is long overdue. The media system we have now has served to misinform us as a whole, choosing to concentrate on dividing the populous on meaningless wedge issues, which inflame emotion, but belong scarcely, if not at all, in news broadcasts. When the media gets in the business of dividing cultural issues and limiting the positions on them to a mere couple, and does this consistently over a long period of time, the public begins to believe strongly in the "divide", and tends to take sides. Media broadcasts, rather than being reflections of the people's wants, concerns, and aspirations, are now in the business of dictating issues of public interest to the very public it should serve. Almost two decades of this type of policy have caused great divisions in our country, and taken the general public's eye off the ball so to speak. This method has led to an alarmingly high rate of depolitization here in America, by which lawmakers can run roughshod over our rights, liberties and general well being, and do so almost completely unnoticed. Local media, to a large degree, is a reflection of this hierarchical structure, where there is little variety to be found. Talking points flow from the top down, and little deviation is required. Disseminating information in such a way as to actually inform viewers, rather than propagate to them, would be a welcome change. Instead of constantly spinning reality and forcing members of the general public to base their conclusions about local and world affairs on the opinions of a privileged few elite, present a myriad of viewpoints, perhaps even from real inhabitants of this society. Let the people decide what is and isn't news, let the media be the forum of the people, as it was intended to be, rather than the forum of the privileged few, whose interests run in stark contrast to that of the general public. I implore you now, help the people to regain control of what is rightly theirs. Matters of interest to local communities deserve their fair share of attention, as counterproductive to Corporate America's agenda as that may be.